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WILLIAM J. BRYAN, CHARLES W. BRYAN
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THE COMMONER, LINCOLN, NEB.

Time is on our side. It is better to write one word on the rock than a thousand on the water or the sand.

Time will tell whether the Bull Moose was or was not a "forerunner," but it was at least "crying in the wilderness," and its head was "delivered on a charger."

President Wilson has left more "deserving republicans" in the diplomatic service than there were "deserving democrats" in the service, and yet Mr. Hughes is not satisfied.

And, yet, it is possible that during the campaign Colonel Roosevelt might prefer to fight under President Wilson in Mexico rather than fight for Candidate Hughes in the United States.

Mr. Hughes has not referred yet to the thirty treaties with nations representing three-fourths of the population of the world. They make war between the contracting countries a remote possibility. Are they not worth a word of endorsement?

Yes, the progressive party has expired, but, instead of passing away peacefully with its head resting on the bosom of the G. O. P., it died in convulsions and calling for vengeance on those responsible for its untimely death.

It is going to be hot work during this heated spell for Mr. Hughes to prepare a speech which will please both Colonel Roosevelt and the German-American voters. Reconciling the suffragettes and anti-suffragettes will be easy compared with this task.

So "Hughes has come out against graft," has he? Well, that depends. No objection to a little graft for the tariff barons and the shipping trust, and the trust magnates and the railroads and the exploiters of Latin America, according to his program. But that, of course, is different.

Mr. Hughes is trying to get the woman vote by endorsing a national amendment. The national amendment will come as soon as a few more states act. The women will not forget that President Wilson went to New Jersey to vote for woman suffrage and then urged the convention to put a suffrage plank in the democratic platform. What did Mr. Hughes do for suffrage before becoming a candidate? Did he go to New York to vote for it? Did he advise the putting of the suffrage plank in the republican platform? Or was he silent on that question as on others?

A NEW JEREMIAH

By comparison, the mournful utterances of the Prophet of Sorrow seem quite optimistic after one has read the lamentations of Jeremiah Hughes.

The Thirty Peace Treaties

The friends of universal peace have abundant reason to favor the re-election of President Wilson. His administration is conspicuous for the service which it has rendered the world in the formulation of a peace plan which makes war a remote possibility between the contracting nations. This plan, now embodied in treaties with thirty nations which, altogether, exercise authority over three-quarters of the population of the globe, provides 1st., that ALL DISPUTES OF EVERY KIND AND CHARACTER, which can not be settled by diplomacy MUST, if they are not by another TREATY submitted for arbitration, be submitted to an international tribunal for investigation and report; 2nd., that the investigation must be concluded within one year; 3rd., that the contracting parties reserve the right of independent action at the conclusion of the investigation; but, 4th., that they agree not to resort to force during the investigation.

These four provisions will, it is believed, make war a remote possibility between the contracting parties.

The plan of these treaties has been followed by Brazil, Argentina and Chile, in a treaty which they have recently signed. If the belligerent nations had been bound together by similar treaties the present conflict might have been avoided, but, while they were supplied with machinery for war, they had no machinery sufficient for dealing with disputes which defied diplomatic settlement. AND, STRANGE TO SAY, UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF THIS ADMINISTRATION THIS COUNTRY WAS NEARLY AS POORLY SUPPLIED AS EUROPE WITH MACHINERY FOR PEACE.

Below will be found a copy of the treaty with the Netherlands, the first of the series signed with a European nation. The others follow the same general form, varying from it only in minor details:

"The President of the United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen of The Netherlands, being desirous to strengthen the bonds of amity that bind them together and also to advance the cause of general peace, have resolved to enter into a treaty for that purpose, and to that end have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

"The President of the United States, the Honorable William Jennings Bryan, secretary of state; and

"Her Majesty the Queen of The Netherlands, Chevalier W. L. F. C. van Rappard, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of The Netherlands to the United States;

"Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in proper form, having agreed upon and concluded the following articles:

"ARTICLE I

"The High Contracting Parties agree that all disputes between them, of every nature whatsoever, to the settlement of which previous arbitration treaties or agreements do not apply in their terms or are not applied in fact, shall, when diplomatic methods of adjustment have failed; be referred for investigation and report to a permanent international commission, to be constituted in the manner prescribed in the next succeeding article; and they agree not to declare war or begin hostilities during such investigation and before the report is submitted.

"ARTICLE II

"The international commission shall be composed of five members, to be appointed as follows: One member shall be chosen from each country, by the government thereof; one member shall be chosen by each government from some third country; the fifth member shall be chosen by common agreement between the two governments, it being understood that he shall not be a citizen of either country. The expenses of the commission shall be paid by the two governments in equal proportion.

"The international commission shall be appointed within six months after the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty; and vacancies shall be filled according to the manner of the original appointment.

"ARTICLE III

"In case the High Contracting Parties shall have failed to adjust a dispute by diplomatic methods, they shall at once refer it to the in-

ternational commission for investigation and report. The international commission may, however, spontaneously offer its services to that effect, and in such case it shall notify both governments and request their co-operation in the investigation.

"The High Contracting Parties agree to furnish the permanent international commission with all the means and facilities required for its investigation and report.

"The report of the international commission shall be completed within one year after the date on which it shall declare its investigation to have begun, unless the High Contracting Parties shall limit or extend the time by mutual agreement. The report shall be prepared in triplicate; one copy shall be presented to each government, and the third retained by the commission for its files.

"The High Contracting Parties reserve the right to act independently on the subject-matter of the dispute after the report of the commission shall have been submitted.

"ARTICLE IV

"The present treaty shall be ratified by the President of the United States of America, by and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof; and by Her Majesty the Queen of The Netherlands; and the ratifications shall be exchanged as soon as possible. It shall take effect immediately after the exchange of ratifications, and shall continue in force for a period of five years; and it shall thereafter remain in force until twelve months after one of the High Contracting Parties have given notice to the other of an intention to terminate it.

"In witness whereof, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present treaty and have affixed thereunto their seals.

"Done in Washington on the eighteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and thirteen."

The following nations have, in the order given, entered into treaties with the United States:

- 1. Salvador August 7, 1913
- 2. Guatemala September 20, 1913
- 3. Panama September 20, 1913
- 4. Honduras November 3, 1913
- 5. Nicaragua December 17, 1913
- 6. Netherlands December 18, 1913
- 7. Bolivia January 22, 1914
- 8. Portugal February 4, 1914
- 9. Persia February 4, 1914
- 10. Denmark February 5, 1914
- 11. Switzerland February 13, 1914
- 12. Costa Rica February 13, 1914
- 13. Dominican Republic February 17, 1914
- 14. Venezuela March 21, 1914
- 15. Italy May 5, 1914
- 16. Norway June 24, 1914
- 17. Peru July 14, 1914
- 18. Uruguay July 20, 1914
- 19. Brazil July 24, 1914
- 20. Argentina July 24, 1914
- 21. Chile July 24, 1914
- 22. Paraguay August 29, 1914
- 23. France September 15, 1914
- 24. Great Britain September 15, 1914
- 25. Spain September 15, 1914
- 26. China September 15, 1914
- 27. Russia October 1, 1914
- 28. Ecuador October 13, 1914
- 29. Greece October 13, 1914
- 30. Sweden October 13, 1914

In addition to the thirty nations signing these treaties, three other nations, Germany, Austria and Belgium have formally accepted the principles embodied in the plan.

W. J. BRYAN.

AN UNPLEASANT CONTRAST

Iowa and Nebraska are separated by the Missouri river but, unfortunately, that is not the only WATER that separates the democracy of the two states. If the democrats of Nebraska will read the platform adopted by the democracy of Iowa they will understand why the party is hopeful of carrying the state this fall. The Iowa democracy has been cut loose from the brewery, the distillery and the saloon and become the champion of virtue, intelligence and patriotism of the state. Iowa's democracy is looking ahead.

THE ANGUISH OF A JUSTICE

When one reads the acceptance speech of Candidate Hughes he wonders how the distinguished jurist could keep silent while the President was doing all the wicked things of which he now complains. What anguish he must have suffered during the past three years!